



Message of the Week

March 26-April 1, 2003

Presented by Rep. Mike Pence (R-IN)

“Congress must quickly pass a supplemental appropriations bill for Operation Iraqi Freedom.”

- Congress must immediately pass the supplemental spending request submitted by the President for the costs of Operation Iraqi Freedom, the continued war on terrorism, and critical homeland security needs.
- Further, as President has insisted, this supplemental must be passed without attaching any unrelated, unwise, or unnecessary spending.
- The President has requested supplemental spending totaling **\$74.7 billion**, including:
 - \$62.6 billion to support our Armed Forces, including funding for transporting forces to the Gulf region, supplying our war fighters, maintaining vehicles, vessels, aircraft, and equipment, replacing cruise missiles, smart bombs, and other high-tech munitions, providing combat pay for active duty soldiers in the theatre, and paying for America’s Reservists who have answered the call to duty, including their training, housing, and equipment;
 - \$2.4 billion to rebuild Iraq and provide humanitarian assistance; and
 - \$4.25 billion for homeland security efforts, including ongoing efforts in Afghanistan, the Philippines, and elsewhere.
- Quick, clean enactment of the President’s request is critical for the support of our men and women in uniform, the continued success of Operation Iraqi Freedom, and the security of American citizens from future terrorist attacks.